GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5915
ANSWERED ON:02.05.2003
REMOVAL OF RESTRICTIONS OM IMPORTS
NAWAL KISHORE RAI;RAMDAS RUPALA GAVIT;SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether restrictions on certain items have been lifted for export and import under the revised Exim Policy for 2002-2007 as amended on 31 March, 2003;

(b) if so, the names of such items along with its likely impact on the business scenario;

(c) the number of items on which import-export restrictions have been lifted since 2000-2001 to till date;

(d) the number of the items on which restrictions are to be lifted in the future; and

(e) the time by which export and import are proposed to be made restriction-free as per the WTO agreement?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY)

(a) to (e): India has been following a consistent Policy for gradual removal of restrictions on imports & exports since 1991. Import restrictions on items as notified to WTO for BOP reasons have been completely phased out.The present restrictions on imports are being maintained for national security reason, protection of plant, animal & human health, etc. which are permissible under the WTO Agreement. The restrictions on 5 items of exports and 69 items of import have been removed with effect from 31st March 03. The Government has been reviewing such restrictions from time to time with a view to making the Indian economy more competitive & to take it on a higher growth path.